

# NEW SOUTH WALES.

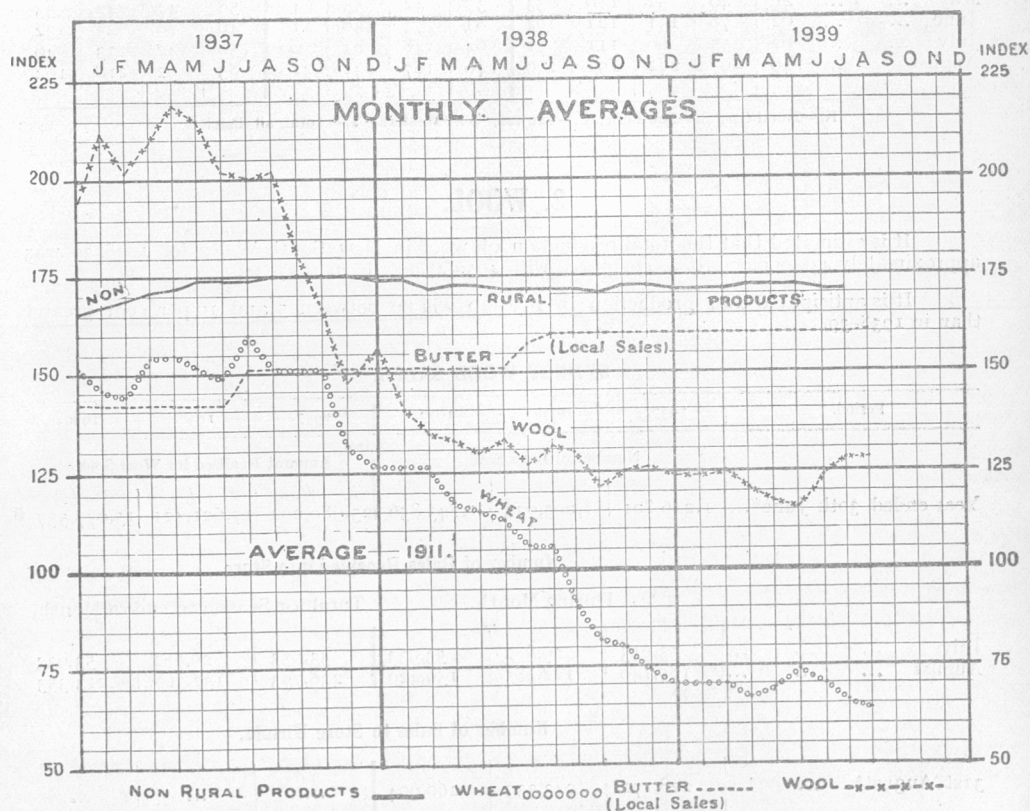
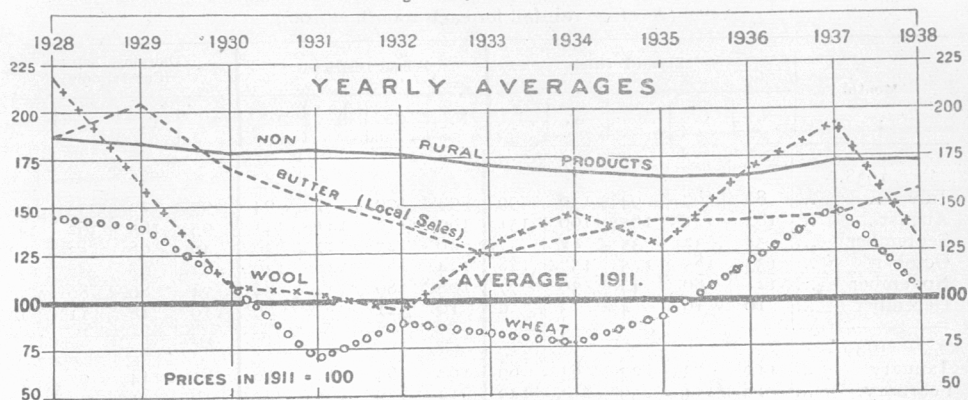
## MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS STATISTICS.

### No. 101. SEPTEMBER 27, 1939.

Issued by S. R. Carver, Government Statistician.

### INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES (SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911 = 100.



All prices are in Australian currency. The indexes for recent months are shown in table 25 on page 11 of this summary. The footnotes to that table apply also to this graph.

\* 25521—A

[Price, 3d.]

# SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

## 1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1938.													
July ...	82	107	94	130	99	94	109	87	94	97	122	53	98
August...	182	121	165	106	151	189	118	141	141	95	165	362	147
September...	51	32	35	21	37	48	27	27	30	46	68	53	53
October...	135	185	125	157	148	124	177	126	139	83	98	207	102
November...	121	86	44	36	77	108	80	32	54	74	86	86	78
December...	10	16	4	3	9	10	21	3	9	19	18	11	18
1939.													
January...	110	73	27	83	69	102	63	14	38	81	114	92	91
February...	17	114	259	255	149	12	139	298	221	16	1	26	13
March...	200	192	325	312	251	191	164	359	287	250	272	197	248
April...	140	172	319	206	214	137	186	348	280	102	89	166	107
May...	40	46	52	110	53	37	42	53	48	58	47	42	53
June...	92	78	131	121	104	81	74	140	115	40	20	23	32
July...	82	55	60	111	71	64	48	64	60	50	42	33	46
August...	146	207	242	198	200	146	187	242	216	83	92	218	102

N.—Northern; S.—Southern; C.—Central; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

## 2. WOOL.

It is estimated that the total production of wool in New South Wales for 1938-39 was approximately 436,000,000 lb. as compared with 495,027,000 lb. in 1937-38.

It is anticipated that production in 1939-40 will be between 5 and 10 per cent. greater than in 1938-39.

### SYDNEY WOOL SALES.

Period.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1937.	1938.	1939.
	Number of Bales Sold.			Sales.		
				Amount Realised for Wool Sold.		
Year ended 30th June*	1,246,801	1,095,022	1,143,856	£25,980,094	£17,621,421	£15,077,537

### Number of Bales Received into Store.

	During Month.			Total for Season to end of Month.		
July ...	53,653	29,882	53,933	53,653	29,882	53,933
August ...	185,140	122,485	159,420	238,793	152,367	213,353

### Number of Bales in Store Unsold.

31st August*	228,172	243,339	260,904	...	...	...
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\* Including carry-over from previous season.



## 3. WHEAT.

The area under wheat in 1938-39, as shown by returns of wheatgrowers in December 1938, was 5,120,600 acres, including 4,568,000 acres for grain and 540,000 acres for hay.

The crop for grain in 1938-1939 was estimated at 59,124,000 bushels.

## WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTED OVERSEA FROM NEW SOUTH WALES (DIRECT).

Month.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39
Bushels of Wheat.			Tons of Flour.			
December... ..	2,282,212	2,242,125	1,068,383	20,783	16,365	14,071
January ... ..	3,165,230	951,257	637,067	16,475	14,280	19,561
February ... ..	2,499,777	1,786,457	3,648,813	18,745	20,020	29,941
March ... ..	2,596,730	1,117,868	1,191,958	15,416	17,703	18,150
April ... ..	2,544,427	5,623,888	1,482,873	17,607	24,243	40,255
May ... ..	3,183,270	2,083,758	2,431,110	14,956	15,826	34,215
June ... ..	1,728,490	993,015	2,561,612	12,701	16,839	35,087
July ... ..	1,080,280	627,287	25,037	13,348	16,320	28,290
August ... ..	11,217	788,508	57,505	16,720	26,776	35,624
Total (nine months) ...	19,091,633	16,214,163	13,104,358	146,751	168,372	255,194

## WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Bushels of Wheat (Equivalent).			Value £.			
December... ..	3,271,895	3,021,432	1,738,426	789,356	656,860	227,994
January ... ..	3,949,754	1,631,255	1,568,553	1,029,694	358,838	195,381
February ... ..	3,392,391	2,739,783	5,074,556	883,785	595,166	634,439
March ... ..	3,330,825	1,960,887	2,056,251	870,738	420,766	257,368
April ... ..	3,382,863	6,778,307	3,399,775	903,140	1,425,793	415,081
May ... ..	3,895,475	2,837,377	4,060,379	1,053,065	562,893	552,968
June ... ..	2,333,295	1,794,865	4,232,412	637,124	324,563	538,207
July ... ..	1,715,916	1,404,444	1,372,182	458,691	249,658	174,827
August ... ..	807,384	2,063,579	1,753,910	189,419	330,111	221,831
Total (nine months) ...	26,079,798	24,231,929	25,256,444	6,815,012	4,924,648	3,218,096

The course of wheat prices is shown in Table 25.

## 4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in factories in 1938-39 was two per cent. less than that of the previous season.

Output in May and June, 1939, was a record for those months.

Month.	Output of Butter (New South Wales factories).		Butter exported oversea (New South Wales).			
	1938.	1939.	Quantity.		Value.	
			1938.	1939.	1938.	1939.
	Thousand lb.		Thousand lb.		£	£
Year ended 30th June ...	115,930	113,841	31,374	23,966	1,895,222	1,350,946
January ... ..	14,592	9,707	5,086	2,528	291,848	145,430
February ... ..	14,020	10,826	5,511	1,009	312,238	60,401
March ... ..	12,411	12,137	5,270	1,843	309,351	111,772
April ... ..	9,088	11,880	3,600	695	218,776	41,337
May ... ..	6,693	10,456	1,001	3,238	67,560	179,981
June ... ..	5,272	7,742	806	3,154	52,233	177,275
(Total Jan.-June.)	62,076	62,748	21,274	12,467	1,252,006	716,196
July ... ..	4,437	6,585	661	2,223	42,156	130,444
August ... ..	4,487	.....	309	964	19,307	55,691

The course of local butter prices is shown in Table 25. Export sales parity (Sydney) on 14th September, 1939, was 139s. per cwt. compared with 130s. per cwt. a year previously.

## 5. COAL.

The quantity of coal raised in 1938 was 9,571,000 tons, compared with 10,052,000 tons in 1937 and 9,199,000 tons in 1936.

Month.	Coal Hauled by Government Railways.†			Coal Exported from New South Wales. †		
	1937.	1938.	1939.	* 1937.	1938.	1939.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
January ...	563,457	552,240	567,189	235,766	220,444	242,092
February ...	545,155	640,100	727,526	223,235	266,540	316,449
March ...	588,277	672,461	806,565	260,121	340,727	334,753
April ...	619,464	611,763	591,509	293,105	274,604	252,481
May ...	579,773	711,875	757,928	271,434	320,439	310,568
June ...	677,368	715,239	736,779	308,383	283,692	347,297
July ...	662,569	762,559	763,141	288,483	322,672	287,000*
August ...	640,592	622,867	840,000*	276,907	275,164	335,000*
Eight Months ended 31st August ...	4,876,655	5,289,104	5,790,637*	2,157,434	2,304,282	2,425,640*

\* Approximate. † Cargo and bunker, Oversea and interstate. ‡ Excludes coal used by the Railway Department and coal shipped or used in New South Wales without being hauled over Government railways.

## 6. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
	Thousand £.				Hundreds.				Hundred £.			
January... ..	2,623	2,616	2,766	2,738	202	212	231	231	749	786	928	950
February ...	2,656	2,853	3,153	3,070	206	221	232	232	766	839	939	964
March ... ..	2,838	3,147	3,570	3,406	208	222	232	229	775	839	949	961
April ... ..	2,683	3,106	2,979	2,791	206	223	232	230	734	844	922	939
May ... ..	2,650	2,938	3,241	3,242	206	222	233	230	756	853	961	954
June ... ..	2,504	2,958	2,935	3,013	205	224	236	228	764	868	947	927
July ... ..	2,827	3,064	3,029	2,961	211	227	238	228	776	871	975	950
August ... ..	2,655	3,025	3,141		214	228	238		793	883	968	
September ...	2,761	3,231	3,407		215	229	237		790	903	967	
October ... ..	2,985	3,147	3,005		219	235	239		809	941	971	
November ...	3,022	3,437	3,305		219	236	240		806	959	989	
December ...	3,070	3,452	3,327		216	236	236		822	1,000	1,008	
Average (January - July) ... ..	2,683	2,955	3,096	3,032	206	222	233	230	760	843	946	949

For the volume of monthly employment in factories, see Table 22.

## 7. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and certain Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded:—

Year.	Month of August.				June Quarter.			
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.		129 Country Towns.		Total, New South Wales.*	
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.		New Buildings.		New Buildings and Additions.	
	£	£	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
1936 ...	864,924	101,925	509	637,904	1,084	744,820		3,558,980
1937 ...	1,049,232	155,831	626	760,813	1,158	934,996		4,362,707
1938 ...	1,202,106	140,871	768	960,763	1,198	1,035,812		5,170,209
1939 ...	1,209,089	127,685	776	978,309	1,168	919,811		4,647,052

\* Including seven Shires adjoining Metropolitan Area.

Figures as to permits to erect new buildings or additions show in advance the trend in the building industry. More detailed information extending over a number of years is shown on pages 22 to 25 of the "New South Wales Statistical Bulletin" for June Quarter, 1939.

## SECTION B.—TRADE.

## 8. VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.\*

To and from New South Wales direct Oversea.

Year.	Australian Currency Values.				British Currency Values.			
	Month of August.		Two months ended 31st August.		Month of August.		Two months ended 31st August.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	Thousand £ A.				Thousand £ Stg.			
1937 ... ..	5,011	2,331	9,937	4,851	4,001	1,861	7,934	3,873
1938 ... ..	5,177	1,909	9,920	3,992	4,133	1,524	7,920	3,188
1939 ... ..	5,075	2,923	9,960	5,337	4,052	2,334	7,953	4,261

\* Excluding bullion and specie.

The values of imports represent the cost f.o.b. port of export plus 10 per cent., and are recorded in *English currency*. The values of exports are the values in the principal markets of New South Wales, and are recorded in *Australian currency*. The respective equivalent values in Australian and British currencies shown above are *estimated*.

## 9. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts.

Month.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.		1939.	
	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.
	Million £.	Million £.	Million £.	Million £.	Million £.	Million £.	Million £.	Million £.	Million £.
January ... ..	9.52	9.87	10.85	11.27	13.74	5.91	14.21	5.80	13.24
February ... ..	9.98	10.37	10.82	12.72	14.64	6.68	15.73	6.63	16.54
March ... ..	10.93	10.92	12.39	13.11	15.43	7.22	15.79	6.47	15.78
April ... ..	10.67	11.25	12.00	13.45	16.45	7.62	16.83	7.50	15.79
May ... ..	11.37	11.64	13.14	13.44	16.50	7.00	16.87	7.51	17.46
June ... ..	10.63	10.91	11.60	13.21	14.98	6.24	14.98	6.14	14.88
July ... ..	10.33	11.46	12.15	14.17	16.55	6.47	16.23	6.19	15.28
Total ... ..	73.43	76.42	82.95	91.37	108.29	47.14	110.64	46.24	108.97
(Jan. to July.)									

Numerous commodities were exempted from tax as from 26th October, 1933, 1st August, 1934, 25th October 1935, and 26th September, 1936. Consequently, many traders dealing exclusively in exempt goods ceased to supply returns and the proportion of wholesale trade covered by the records was progressively reduced. Allowance on this account should be made when comparing recent totals with those for 1936 and earlier years.

## 10. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for periods shown below compared with corresponding periods of previous year:—

Month.	Number of Business Days in Month.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
Percentage increase + or decrease —								
Year 1938 ...	303	303	+ 4.8	+ 5.2	+ 11.6	+ 5.0	.....	.....
1939.								
January ...	23	24	+ 5.1	+ 3.6	+ 6.1	+ 1.6	+ 3.4	+ 6.4
February...	24	24	— 0.2	+ 2.9	+ 4.6	+ 2.3	+ 1.9	+ 5.8
March*	27	27	+ 9.0	+ 1.7	+ 4.0	+ 2.1	+ 4.6	+ 4.9
April*	23	22	— 10.3	+ 1.5	+ 0.5	+ 1.4	— 1.0	+ 3.0
May ...	26	27	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.0	+ 0.6	— 0.6	+ 2.9
June*	25	25	+ 0.2	— 0.5	+ 1.5	— 0.1†	— 3.1	+ 2.0
July*	26	26	— 0.9	— 2.7	+ 1.4	+ 0.3	Nil.	+ 2.3
Seven months ... (Jan. to July.)	174	175	+ 0.2	+ 1.0	+ 3.1	+ 1.2	.....	.....

\* March, 1939, April, 1938, June, 1939, and July, 1938, included five late shopping nights.

† Revised.

## SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

## 11. RAILWAYS.

## NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

	Month of July.			Year ended 30th June.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1937 ...	1,460,813	1,021,565	439,248	17,816,496	12,355,322	5,461,174
1938 ...	1,555,334	1,182,843	372,491	19,486,116	13,759,988	5,726,128
1939 ...	1,541,621	1,171,621	370,000	19,146,441	14,542,980	4,603,461

\* Interest and Exchange on loan capital are not included as working expenses.

The amount of interest chargeable against the railways in 1937-38 was £5,340,000, exclusive of £1,134,659 sinking fund, exchange, etc.

	Month of July.		Year ended 30th June.	
	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1937 ...	146,414	15,105	1,809,840	177,837
1938 ...	162,077	15,614	1,938,408	189,349
1939 ...	146,616	15,249	1,841,758	186,720

\* Goods (including wayleave) and livestock. Ton-mileage represents the weight times the distance (miles) it was carried.

All fares and certain rates of freight were increased by ten per cent. from 1st March, 1939.

## 12. TRAMWAYS AND OMNIBUSES.

## SERVICES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT—NEW SOUTH WALES.

	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†		
			Tramways.	Omnibuses.	Total.
<i>Sydney and Suburbs.</i>	£	£	No.	No.	No.
Month of July—					
1937 ...	318,546	63,589	24,278,856	3,598,074	27,876,930
1938 ...	321,624	41,635	23,463,559	4,433,333	27,896,892
1939 ...	326,587	39,724	22,877,619	5,024,436	27,902,055
<i>Newcastle and Suburbs.</i>					
Month of July—					
1937 ...	22,431	4,391	1,676,484	200,423	1,876,907
1938 ...	23,011	3,907	1,699,113	215,275	1,914,388
1939 ...	24,508	3,464	1,410,660	592,126	2,002,786

\* Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Depreciation are not included as working expenses.

† Excludes Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.



## 13. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.  
(Including Commonwealth and State Government Vehicles.)

Class.	31st August, 1937.	1938.			1939.			
		31st August.	30th September.	31st December.	31st March.	30th June.	31st July.	31st August.
Cars ...	191,755	205,964	206,859	212,002	213,970	216,050	216,227	216,033
Lorries and Vans†	71,896	79,862	80,685	83,425	83,483	84,175	84,805	85,279
Cycles ...	23,499	24,075	24,047	24,353	24,264	24,151	24,026	23,995
Omnibuses ...	622	703	716	733	741	777	787	794
Cabs ...	1,175	1,231	1,240	1,260	1,283	1,311	1,321	1,331
Traders' Plates	1,039	1,139	1,147	1,167	1,124	1,164	1,176	1,187
Total ...	289,986	312,974	314,694	322,940	324,865	327,628	328,342	329,219

† Including trailers.

## Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.\*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).								Lorries and Vans.							
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June	July.	Aug.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June	July.	Aug.
1934	147	144	137	141	198	226	242	261	60	59	54	72	81	79	91	93
1935	229	258	234	212	246	256	308	336	90	103	108	93	108	106	113	130
1936	329	446	458	416	393	376	321	303	101	140	139	151	163	161	177	165
1937	413	458	529	452	525	498	453	416	143	163	140	165	190	225	205	215
1938	450	481	516	493	491	389	305	347	175	195	190	191	218	170	164	157
1939	349	519	446	411	424	381	310	330	133	139	140	141	160	151	144	155

\* Represents average over the exact calendar month. The term "new" denotes that the vehicle was not previously registered in N.S.W.

## 14. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.  
(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
January ...	No. 162,813	No. 201,206	No. 265,396	No. 296,482	No. 342,155	No. 389,055	No. 423,649
March ...	168,695	207,503	271,848	304,954	345,056	395,503	427,964
April ...	171,044	212,448	273,854	307,817	348,384	397,911	428,848
May ...	174,729	218,322	277,410	311,547	352,907	400,652	431,149
June ...	178,000	226,831	278,648	315,731	358,292	403,978	433,029
July... ..	181,919	238,155	280,211	322,625	364,696	405,244	433,972
August ...	185,471	247,290	281,613	327,232	370,289	414,747	431,029

## SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

## 15. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).†

Date.	Amount of Deposits.	Date.	Amount of Deposits.		
			1937.	1938.	1939.
1929—June 30 ...	£ 85,727,514†	January 31 ...	£ 79,740,080*	£ 83,282,881*	£ 86,824,101*
1931—June 30 ...	69,810,769†	February 28 ...	79,837,997*	83,697,582*	86,591,320*
1933—June 30 ...	72,307,685†	March 31 ...	79,769,787	83,989,040	86,269,445
1934—June 30 ...	75,714,070†	April 30 ...	79,961,349*	84,211,474*	86,222,208*
1935—March 31 ...	76,650,111	May 31 ...	79,979,327*	84,310,498*	86,097,258*
June 30... ..	77,906,402†	June 30 ...	81,952,399†	86,015,685†	87,473,789†
September 30 ...	78,533,317	July 31 ...	81,948,808*	85,952,874*	87,201,203*
December 31 ...	78,533,822	August 31 ...	82,228,706*	86,309,959*	86,957,281*
1936—March 31 ...	79,116,303	September 30 ...	82,460,751	86,436,219	
June 30 ...	79,999,948†	October 31 ...	82,959,576*	86,763,372*	
September 30 ...	79,773,002	November 30 ...	83,226,758*	86,341,441*	
December 31 ...	79,467,023	December 31 ...	82,818,626	86,645,354	

\* Approximate.

† Includes accrued interest.

‡ Amount at credit of depositors' accounts.

## 16. TRADING BANKS—ADVANCES AND DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).

TOTAL (including Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and including Government Business).

June Quarter.	Deposits.*	Advances, etc., and Government Securities.	Excess of Advances, Securities, etc., over Deposits.
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1937 ... ..	140,996	153,341	12,345
1938 ... ..	147,811	166,635	18,824
1939 ... ..	150,601	177,535	26,934

\* Excluding stock issued by Rural Bank.

## 17. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

June Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances, etc.	Excess of Advances over Deposits.
	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Total.		
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1937 ... ..	61,090	49,245	110,335	104,799	(-) 5,536
1938 ... ..	62,922	50,474	113,396	118,937	5,541
1939 ... ..	64,668	51,381	116,049	122,219	6,170

(-) Denotes an excess of Deposits over Advances.

## 18. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
	Amount—Million £							Index Numbers.						
January ...	49.2	59.5	56.9	66.4	76.7	67.5	66.5	68	78	75	89	101	97	98
February ...	47.7	59.3	59.7	69.2	77.4	75.6	75.5	66	77	75	86	101	96	96
March ...	53.3	58.8	57.7	69.9	77.2	82.6	80.5	63	75	74	85	98	95	93
April ...	44.4	52.8	61.3	63.5	80.6	75.7	70.7	63	74	78	87	103	102	98
May ...	58.9	61.7	64.9	68.4	76.1	82.9	82.0	67	74	79	86	100	103	100
June ...	52.4	72.1	73.7	69.5	79.2	86.8	80.3	68	78	86	87	103	106	101
July ...	49.7	54.8	61.2	65.1	75.0	70.5	71.2	68	76	83	85	97	101	98
August ...	48.5	47.8	59.6	61.9	70.0	72.9	74.9	66	73	84	86	98	101	99
September ...	55.6	61.7	62.5	68.1	79.8	77.6		69	73	82	87	101	99	
October ...	55.4	63.7	72.2	76.6	80.1	79.5		70	76	85	91	101	101	
November ...	63.9	63.2	75.1	79.7	81.3	82.7		74	80	89	96	103	102	
December ...	62.4	60.7	71.2	84.3	83.9	88.1		74	77	90	99	101	102	
Year ...	641.4	716.1	776.0	842.6	937.3	942.4		68	76	82	89	101	101	

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

## 19. INTEREST RATES IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Period.	First Mortgages Registered. Proportion of Total Amount for which Rates are disclosed.					Australian Consolidated Loans. Interest yield (including Redemption) on all Securities Repayable:—			
	Rate of Interest per cent per annum.*					Over 5 to 10 Years.	Over 10 to 15 Years.	Over 15 Years.	Over 5 Years. (over all Rate.)
	4½ or under.	Over 4½-5.	Over 5-6.	Over 6-7.	Over 7.				
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.—Per annum.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1934 ...	28	37	25	8	2	3 4 4	3 5 4	3 9 3	3 6 9
1935 ...	46	30	18	4	2	3 9 7	3 10 1	3 13 9	3 11 1
1936 ...	39	37	18	4	2	3 16 10	3 17 6	3 18 9	3 17 8
1937 ...	32	39	24	3	2	3 16 4	3 17 5	3 18 1	3 17 4
1938 ...	30	38	25	5	2	3 14 5	3 15 0	3 15 10	3 15 0
Jan. to June 1939	21	33	36	7	3	3 17 9	3 18 4	3 18 4	3 18 1
1939—February ...	18	33	38	9	2	3 16 8	3 16 9	3 16 7	3 16 8
March ...	24	30	35	8	3	3 17 3	3 17 9	3 17 8	3 17 6
April ...	18	27	47	6	2	3 18 10	3 19 7	3 19 5	3 19 3
May ...	15	44	32	6	3	3 18 8	3 19 3	3 19 2	3 19 0
June ...	18	26	44	8	4	3 18 9	3 19 6	3 19 5	3 19 2
July ...	16	38	36	8	2	3 19 6	4 0 0	3 19 11	3 19 9
August ...	7	57	26	8	2	3 19 6	4 0 1	3 19 11	3 19 10
At 14th Sept. ...	...	...	...	...	...	4 1 4	4 1 1	4 1 9	4 1 5

\* Where two rates of interest are shown in the legal instrument, the lower rate being consequent on payment within a specified period, this rate is adopted for the purposes of the above table.

## 20. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1935.	1936.†	1937.	1938.†	1939.
	Thousand £.									
January ...	1,727	2,153	2,954	2,383	2,449	1,246	1,241	1,861	1,771	1,591
February ...	2,205	2,504	2,596	3,285	2,438	1,341	1,200	1,688	1,868	1,841
March ...	2,201	3,090	2,992	3,280	3,623	1,541	3,030	2,134	2,036	2,225
April ...	1,828	3,033	2,792	2,770	2,245	1,160	1,389	1,607	2,359	2,025
May ...	2,518	2,317	2,716	3,089	3,090	1,723	1,376	1,850	2,727	2,112
June ...	2,163	2,839	2,879	2,808	2,613	1,572	1,756	1,842	2,604	1,658
July ...	2,451	3,288	4,692	2,894	2,919	1,363	1,668	2,550	2,285	1,950
August ...	2,041	2,787	2,925	4,262	3,068	1,121	1,686	1,771	2,184	2,770
September ...	2,248	2,815	2,665	3,079		1,634	1,563	1,593	2,085	
October ...	2,158	2,508	3,079	3,111		1,361	2,270	2,241	2,153	
November ...	2,475	3,212	3,478	2,671		1,133	1,504	2,694	2,565	
December ...	2,075	2,940	3,585	2,797		1,330	1,831	1,980	2,343	
Year ...	26,090	33,546	37,353	37,419		16,531	20,511†	23,811	26,967†	
Eight months ended 31st August ...	17,134	22,071	24,546	25,761	22,445	11,067	13,346	15,303	17,834	16,172

\* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

† Totals for months are approximate and aggregate differs slightly from annual total.

The average monthly transactions for period 1925-1929 were:—Sales, £4,619,000; and Mortgages, £4,042,000

NOTE.—Mortgages and liens in some instances secure fluctuating advances, the amount of which is not recorded in the legal instruments. The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security of subsisting mortgages are included.

In the eight months ended 31st August, 1939, mortgages, exclusive of those providing collateral security amounted to £14,607,000 as compared with £15,700,000 and £12,067,000 in the corresponding period of 1938 and 1937 respectively.

## 21. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of August.			Eight months ended 31st August.		
	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1937 ...	131,513	281,884	157,412	1,434,320	2,338,274	1,221,203
1938 ...	138,108	87,534	127,651	1,638,961	2,285,273	1,236,028
1939 ...	142,881	109,939	127,016	1,662,535	2,479,151	1,095,533

See note under Table 20.

## SECTION E.—GENERAL.

## 22.—EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

(APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN MIDDLE WEEK OF MONTH.)

Month.	Total in Employment. (a)	Total in Private Employment.	Total employed in Factories.	Number Employed by Employers with 10 or more Employees in—			
				Mines.	Retail Trade.	Wholesale Trade.	Offices and Commerce.
1933—June (b) ...	594,273	477,577	139,744	14,568	38,544	17,638	20,340
1937—July ...	803,579	656,424	216,400	18,808	51,260	24,508	25,429
August ...	808,770	660,759	219,300	19,436	49,948	24,331	25,423
1938—May ...	835,596	685,554	228,800	20,782	51,390	25,354	26,029
June ...	839,511	688,881	229,000	20,980	51,921	25,212	26,297
July ...	838,622	687,864	227,000(c)	21,184	53,112	25,169	26,166
August ...	834,572	684,897	227,600(c)	20,990	51,323	25,320	26,303
1939—May ...	836,182	683,203	223,100(c)	21,145	51,951	25,701	27,323
June ...	831,555	678,577	223,100(c)	20,873	51,667	25,212	27,277
July ...	833,331	681,153	222,900(c)	21,176	52,833	25,356	26,872
August ...	831,806	680,300	222,900(c)	21,679	51,253	25,420	27,060

(a) Excluding Rationed Relief Workers.

(b) Census of 30th June.

(c) Subject to revision.

## 23.—INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT—N.S.W.

After comprehensive analysis of Census data, the returns of private employers accompanying remittances of wages tax, and returns of Government employment, the following indexes have been compiled covering total employment and unemployment in New South Wales:—

Middle of Month.	Proportion of all who are dependent on and available for employment—			
	(a) Including full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers as employed.		(b) Excluding part-time relief workers from employed.	
	Employed. per cent.	Unemployed. per cent.	Employed. per cent.	Unemployed. per cent.
1933—June Census ...	74·4	25·6	73·5	26·5
1937—July ...	93·8	6·2	92·6	7·4
August ...	94·3	5·7	93·0	7·0
1938—July ...	95·9	4·1	94·9	5·1
August ...	95·3	4·7	94·2	5·8
1939—July ...	93·8	6·2	92·7	7·3
August ...	93·5	6·5	92·4	7·6

## NOTES.

(1) The index of employment is the ratio of number in employment (first column of Table 22) to estimated number of wage earners available for employment. The index of unemployment is the residue, but both indexes are derived by modifying the census ratios in accordance with subsequent changes.

(2) "Number in employment" is virtually a direct record; "number of available wage earners" is an estimate derived by increasing the total of wage earners in employment (plus unemployed) at the Census of 1933 in ratio to the annual increase in persons aged 15 to 64 years. In order to increase the degree of precision in the index, adjustment is made in the number of available wage earners thus estimated to allow for (a) increase in the proportion of females who are wage earners (b) youths who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the Census of 1933. Adjustment for seasonal variations in employment is not made except in respect of casual retail employees in December.

(3) At the census of 1933, 15,142 persons, or 1·8 per cent. of total dependent on employment, were unemployed by reason of illness, accident, etc., or voluntarily. These are excluded from the above indexes which relate to percentages of available wage earners employed and unemployed.

(4) The percentages of unemployment shown above are approximations relating to all wage earners of both sexes. Separate estimates for males and females cannot be made from the data available.



## 24. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).

(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
January ...	100	103	101	96	93	98	100	105	110	114	116	125
February ...	100	105	98	97	95	97	100	104	112	115	122	125
March ...	100	102	101	97	95	98	99	105	111	115	121	130
April ...	100	104	100	96	96	96	101	105	110	119	119	125
May ...	100	106	100	94	95	97	100	107	110	117	122	128
June ...	100	103	100	97	99	97	103	109	114	124	127	131
July ...	100	105	99	96	97	96	100	108	112	122	126	134
August	100	106	100	94	97	101	103	108	107	120	128	135
September	100	108	98	94	97	99	101	110	113	118	123	
October	100	109	97	94	96	99	104	109	113	119	121	
November	100	109	96	95	97	103	104	112	116	124	124	
December	100	105	98	97	99	101	106	113	116	122	124	
Year	100	105	99	96	96	98	102	108	112	119	123	

## 25. INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES

(SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911=100 'n all cases. Australian Currency.

Period.	Wool.	Wheat.	Butter (Local Sales).	Non- Rural.†	100 Com- modities Average.
1911* ...	100	100	100	100	100
1929* ...	162	140	204	184	186
1931* ...	105	70	154	180	155
1932* ...	96	88	140	177	152
1933* ...	127	82	124	172	151
1934* ...	147	77	133	167	150
1935* ...	128	92	142	165	153
1936* ...	168	120	142	165	156
1937* ...	193	148	146	173	168
1938* ...	129	101	157	172	168
1938—May ...	133	113	151	172	169
June ...	127	106	158	172	171
July ...	131	106	160	172	175
August ...	129	92	160	172	174
September ...	122	82	160	171	168
October .....	125	80	160	173	166
November ...	126	74	160	173	162
December ...	124	70	160	172	164
1939—January ...	124	70	160	172	166
February ...	125	70	160	172	167
March ...	121	67	160	173	169
April ...	118	69	160	173	165
May ...	116	74	160	173	161
June ...	124	70	160	172	159
July ...	128	66	160	172	159
August ...	128	64	160	173	159

## RATES OF EXCHANGE.

Parities in January, 1929=100 in all cases.

Average Rates of Exchange.‡				
Australia on London.	London on New York.	London on Paris.	Australia on New York.	Australia on Paris.
100	...	...	...	...
102	100	100	102	102
128	107	107	140	137
125	139	139	174	172
125	115	147	143	181
125	97	162	120	201
125	99	167	124	208
125	98	150	122	186
125	98	100	123	124
125	99	73	124	91
125	98	70	122	88
125	98	70	123	87
125	99	70	123	87
125	100	70	124	87
125	101	70	126	87
125	102	69	127	86
125	103	70	129	86
125	104	70	130	87
125	104	70	130	87
125	104	70	129	88
125	104	70	130	88
125	104	70	130	88
125	104	70	130	88
125	104	70	130	88
125	106	70	132	88

\* Average for year. ‡ Approximate; the above table expresses in the form of an index the amount of currency of the country first mentioned required to buy a fixed quantity of the second named country's currency.

† Includes only those (non-rural) primary, manufactured and imported commodities which are included in the index for 100 commodities. Highly manufactured articles are not included. The individual items are listed on pages 488 and 489 of the "Official Year Book of New South Wales" for 1920.

## 26. OVERSEA WHOLESALE PRICE LEVELS.

	Year 1937.	Year 1938.	1938.					1939.						
			Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May.	June.	July.
Great Britain—Board of Trade (1930 = 100)...	108.7	101.4	99.5	98.4	99.1	98.4	98.3	97.2	96.8	96.6	97.2	97.8	98.1	98.1
United States—Irving Fisher (1926 = 100) ...	90.7	81.2	80.4	80.6	80.3	80.4	79.9	79.8	79.8	80.0	80.0	79.8	79.0	78.7†

† The average for the first two weeks of August, 1939, was 78.4.

## 27. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Spot Prices of Metals (London Exchange, Prices in Sterling).

Date.	Gold (Fine).			Silver (Standard).		Lead.		Spelter.		Tin (Standard).		Copper (Standard).	
	per oz.			per oz.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.	
	£	s.	d.	s.	d.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.
Average, 1927-29 ...	4	4	11	2	1.75	22	18	26	4	240	1	64	9
September, 1931 ...	4	11	3	1	2.10	11	19	11	16	117	17	31	11
1939.													
April ...	7	8	6	1	8.03	14	6	13	8	218	10	42	1
May ...	7	8	6	1	8.12	14	9	13	14	225	14	41	13
June ...	7	8	5	1	7.50	14	11	14	0	227	12	42	0
July ...	7	8	6	1	4.95	14	15	14	4	229	18	42	18
August ...	7	10	6	1	5.72	16	0	14	12	229	18	44	14

† Mean of spot and forward quotations.

## 28. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio per cent. of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values; adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares issued.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
April, 1929	179.3	183.8	129.4	174.1	243.5	174.4	172.6
Sept., 1931	72.3	60.2	87.9	75.2	121.3	74.4	77.2
Mar., 1937	213.8	203.8	181.0	169.2	281.2	190.4	200.5
Aug., 1938	210.5	184.2	176.2	130.0	262.3	179.3	184.0
1939 Feb. ...	209.3	173.8	171.0	119.6	260.5	175.8	183.6
Mar. ...	206.9	173.0	163.8	120.6	257.6	174.1	181.1
Apl. ...	203.4	169.1	161.1	114.9	256.0	170.9	178.0
May ...	212.8	173.7	163.8	113.5	255.8	175.4	184.0
June ...	215.4	175.8	163.3	113.9	258.8	177.3	185.0
July ...	214.5	171.3	160.3	117.5	262.7	176.2	184.3
Aug. ...	212.6	168.2	156.0	118.2	263.9	174.4	181.9

\* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies. § The highest point of the index, prior to the slump, was reached in April 1929, the lowest in September, 1931, and the highest point in March, 1937.

The population of N.S.W. at 31st March, 1939, was 2,742,859 (revised) or 39 per cent. of the total population of Australia (Sydney and Suburbs, 31st December, 1938, 1,288,721).

## NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the 20th of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted), payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

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The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.

27th September, 1939.